

REMARKS

Claim 26 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bandini et al. (US 2002/0199095).

Reconsideration of the application based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §102(b) Rejections

Claim 26 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bandini et al.

Bandini et al. discloses a “method for reducing the number of SPAM messages received by users of a protected e-mail network.” (See para. [0004]; lines 2 to 3).

Claim 26 recites a method of monitoring messages addressed to a first receiver (E1) in which the first receiver (E1) is a first set-up user account in a communications service and comprises an undesirable receiving device (UNE),
the first receiver (E1) is set up to prevent access by a user of the first receiver (E1) to the undesirable receiving device (UNE),
an undesirable message category is defined which indicates messages which are to be prevented from being delivered to a user of the first receiver (E1),
it is checked whether a message (M) addressed to the first receiver (E1) falls into the undesirable message category,
the message (M) is allocated to the undesirable receiving device (UNE) if the message (M) falls into the undesirable message category, and
the first receiver (E1) is set up in order that the undesirable receiving device (UNE) can only be accessed by a second receiver (E2), which is a second set-up user account in the communications service.

Bandini et al. does not disclose “the first receiver (E1) is set up to prevent access by a user of the first receiver (E1) to the undesirable receiving device (UNE)” as recited in claim 26. It is not clear what the Office Action is asserting is the first receiver. However, Bandini et al. discloses that unwanted messages that are SPAM are still sent to a user station. (see Bandini paragraph [0019], for example). In no way is access prevented as claimed.

Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) to claim 26 is therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,

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